Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) Updates

Capt. Mike Sacco, SIEC Co-Chair

September 17, 2013

Public Safety Interoperable Communications Office
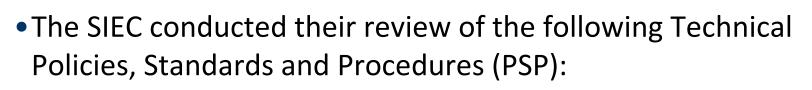
Summary of Recent SIEC Meeting

- The SIEC met on September 4th in Phoenix

- Summary of Agenda – details to follow:

  - Appointment of new SIEC member

  - Annual Review of Technical PSPs

  - Request for Input for 2014 Federal Technical Assistance application

  - Update on Communications Unit Training and Recognition Program

  - Other Presentations
    - » Update on National Public Safety Broadband Network
    - » PSIC Office – Multiple Project Updates

  - 2014 SIEC Meeting Schedule

Appointment of new SIEC member

- Mr. Scott Tillman retired from the Department of Public Safety on July 31, 2013 and resigned from the SIEC. Scott has represented DPS on the SIEC since July 2005 when the Committee was formally organized as a sub-committee of the PSCC.

- According to the SIEC Operating Principles Document, "the SIEC co-chairs are responsible for unanimously selecting the other three members of the SIEC."

- Jeremy Knoll, Wireless Systems Maintenance Supervisor with DPS, was appointed to the Committee. He currently manages Telecommunication Supervisors and staff in the construction, installation, and maintenance of communications sites and equipment throughout the statewide system of microwave, two-way radio, data, and telephone systems. Jeremy is a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) approved instructor for the All-Hazards Communications Unit Leader (COML) course and is recognized as an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML.

Annual Review of Technical PSPs

- The SIEC conducted their review of the following Technical Policies, Standards and Procedures (PSP):

  - Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards

  - Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan & Priority Programming Guide

  - Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) State Plan - Standard Operating Procedures

  - Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Improvement and Sustainability Plan

- Each document was reviewed for content updates, conformance with existing standards, technical corrections, broken links, format, etc

- The PSCC will review these documents today

Technical PSP Review (cont.)

- While each document needs minor changes to conform to the new PSP format, no major changes have been identified to the core content of the PSPs

- During a discussion of each document, the following changes were suggested:

  - Land Mobile Radio Minimum Equipment Standards: Change minimum character display to 8 instead of 7

  - AIRS SOP: Remove the NIFOG related content that is in the Interoperable Channels plan

  - AIRS Improvement and Sustainability Plan: Use generic DPS contact info in the appendix, instead of specific names that need updating

  - Arizona Interoperable Channels Plan and Priority Programming Guide: Incorporate the Priority Programming Guide as an appendix in the Channels Plan so that it is one document

2014 ICTAP Technical Assistance

- The Committee heard a presentation on OEC's 2014 Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP)

- Technical Assistance (TA) requests are submitted annually by the PSIC Office on behalf of State and local agencies and must support SCIP initiatives and identified gaps

- The Committee reviewed each SCIP initiative along with relevant TA offerings. The PSCC will provide feedback on Arizona's 2014 TA requests today

- The Committee expressed support in particular for TAs related to a Statewide TIC-FOG, a COMT Train-the-Trainer course, and a Communications Unit Exercise to allow for additional task book sign offs

- Jurisdictions were also encouraged to submit requests and their feedback to the PSIC Office by September 10

Communications Unit Training and Recognition Program

- As of September 2013, the NIMS-CU Workgroup has recognized 20 Arizona Regional All-Hazards COMLs and 5 COMTs.

	COML		COMT	
	Trained	Recognized	Trained	Recognized
Discipline				
Emergency Management	21	5	13	2
Fire	68	6	23	-
Health Care	4	1	1	-
Law Enforcement	74	4	27	3
Other	86	4	18	-
Totals	**253** *(from AZ; since 2009)*	**20**	**82**	**5**

- Those recognized represent agencies from 6 counties and are listed on the AZ Regional All-Hazards Communications Resource List on the PSIC website at: http://www.azpsic.gov/library/coml/.

Areas Needing Improvement

A discussion was held on areas needing improvement with the program, including:

- There are currently 9 AZ based COML instructors and two COMT instructors. The lack of COMT instructors both nationally and in Arizona results in a significant cost for delivering the course

- There is a shortage of recognized COMLs and COMTs to sign off Position Taskbooks (PTB). While Incident Commanders and supervisors can sign off tasks, the lack of recognized COMLs and COMTs results in fewer mentorship opportunities

- Lack of incident/event opportunities to get the PTB signed

- Lack of continuing education opportunities for renewal candidates

- Lack of awareness of the value of the Communications Unit among executive leadership / incident command

- Lack of awareness of the value of certified COMLs and COMTs to agency operations

Upcoming Communications Unit Events

- Planning is now underway for the 2014 Field Day to be held in Maricopa County. Individuals interested in participating on the Event Planning Team should contact Glade Jarman at gjarman@azpsic.gov

- Additional All-Hazards COML and COMT courses are being planned for early 2014 pending award of SHSGP funds – potential for up to 5 COML classes and one COMT class

- Executive Leadership Seminar on Public Safety Communications: Seminar participants will hear from practitioners and subject matter experts on the value of the Communications Unit during multi-agency events, whether large scale preplanned events or rapidly developing incidents managed through the Communications Center
    - November 19, 2013
    - 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
    - Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) Suite 300
    - 100 N 15th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Upcoming SIEC Meetings

- Next SIEC Meeting:

  Tuesday October 15, 2013

  10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

  ADOA 3rd Floor Conference Room

  100 N. 15th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85007

- 2014 SIEC Meeting Schedule

  All 2014 SIEC Meetings will be held from 10 AM - 12 PM in the Arizona Department of Administration 3rd floor conference room.

  Tuesday, January 21

  Tuesday, March 18

  Tuesday, March 20

  Tuesday, August 19

  Tuesday, October 21

Questions?

Additional Discussion

_____

Thank You!